

AGENDA ITEM 3.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRESS UPDATE

Panelists:

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CALIFORNIA
ECO RESTORE
A STRONGER DELTA ECOSYSTEM.



PROGRAM UPDATE

April 2017



CALIFORNIA ECORESTORE COMPONENTS

- **Projects:**
 - Comprehensive suite of actions
 - Accelerating on the ground restoration
- **Planning:**
 - Longer-term restoration planning
 - Regional strategies
- **Adaptive Management**
 - Landscape scale
 - Multi-agency approach
 - Builds on Delta Science Plan concepts





CALIFORNIA ECORESTORE TARGETS

- Restoring more than 30,000 acres in the Delta, Yolo Bypass and Suisun Marsh by 2020:
 - Tidal and sub-tidal
 - Floodplain
 - Managed wetlands
- Fish passage improvements





2017/2018 PROJECTS

2017	2018
Dutch Slough	Decker Island
Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage	Grizzly Slough
Hill Slough	Fish Restoration Program: RFP projects
McCormack Williamson Tract	Lower Putah Creek
Southport Levee Setback	Lower Yolo Ranch
	Prospect Island
	Sherman Island: Whale's Belly Wetland
	Yolo Bypass Floodplain ROD/NOD



Current Projects

2017 / 2018

(Target Construction Start Dates)

1	Decker Island
2	Dutch Slough
3	Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage Modification
4	Grizzly Slough
5	Hill Slough
6	Lower Putah Creek Realignment
7	Lower Yolo Ranch
8	McCormack Williamson Tract
9	Prospect Island
10	Fish Restoration Program RFP Projects (not on map)
11	Sherman Island: Whale's Belly Wetland
12	Southport Levee
13	Tule Red (2016)

2019+

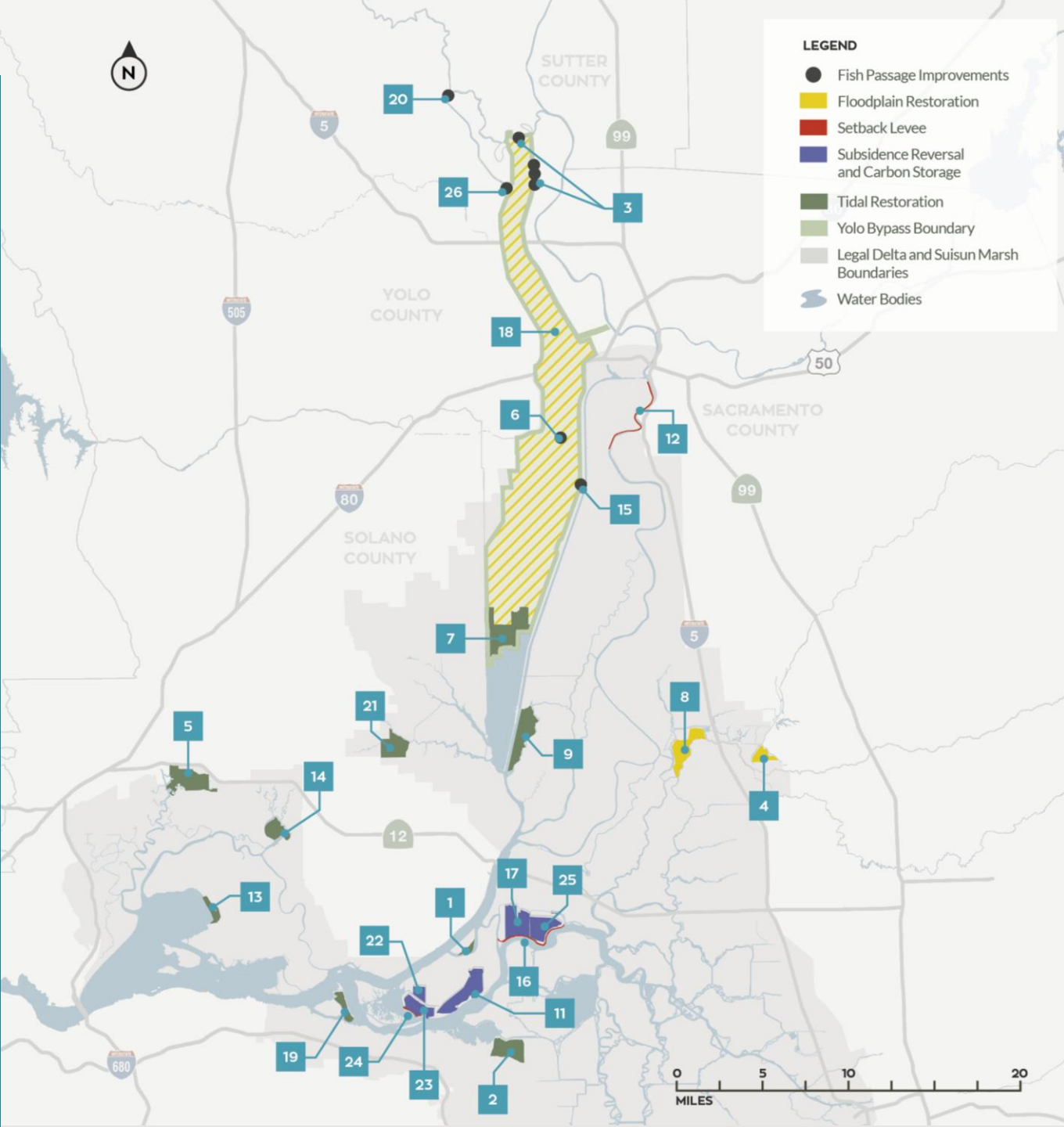
(Target Construction Start Dates)

14	Bradmoor Island
15	Lisbon Weir
16	Twitchell Island: Levee
17	Twitchell Island: West End
18	Yolo Bypass Floodplain Restoration
19	Winter Island

COMPLETED

(Construction Completed)

20	Knights Landing Outfall Gate
21	Lindsey Slough
22	Sherman Island: Mayberry Farms
23	Sherman Island: Whale's Mouth
24	Sherman Island: Mayberry Slough
25	Twitchell Island: East End
26	Wallace Weir Fish Rescue Facility





REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – TIDAL PROJECTS

- DWR awarding up to \$42.5 M for planning and construction of tidal restoration projects
- Projects implemented by private entities under contract with DWR
- Credits toward 2008 Delta Smelt BiOp
- Projects guided by requirements of the federal Fisheries Agency Strategy Team (FAST)
- Two projects noticed to award contracts
- Second RFP in 2017



ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

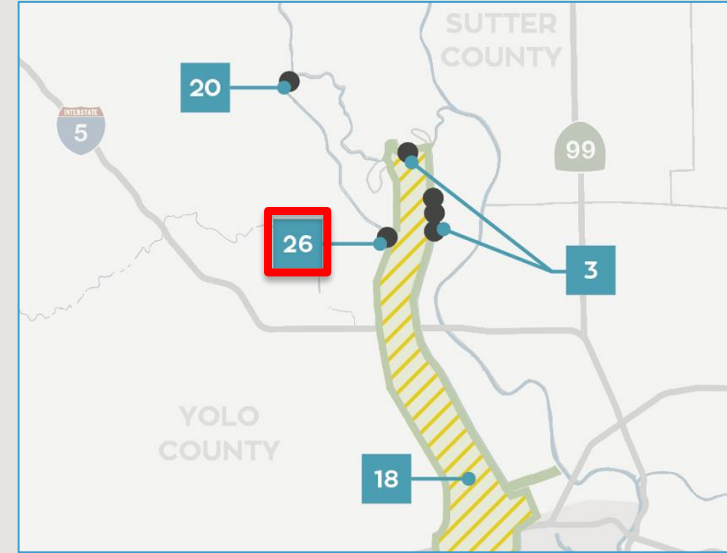
- For EcoRestore Projects in the Delta and Suisun Marsh
- Based on Recommendations from the Delta Science Program
- Lauren Hastings – Initial Adaptive Management Coordinator
- White Paper outlines tasks – short and longer term
- Independent Science Board reviewing White Paper
- Many DPIIC agencies directly participating





WALLACE WEIR FISH RESCUE FACILITY

- Yolo Bypass Fish Passage
- Led by DWR and RD 108
- Credit toward 2009 NMFS BiOp
 - Prevents salmon straying
 - Replace season earthen dam with permanent/operable structure
 - Includes fish rescue facility
- Status: Construction 95% complete





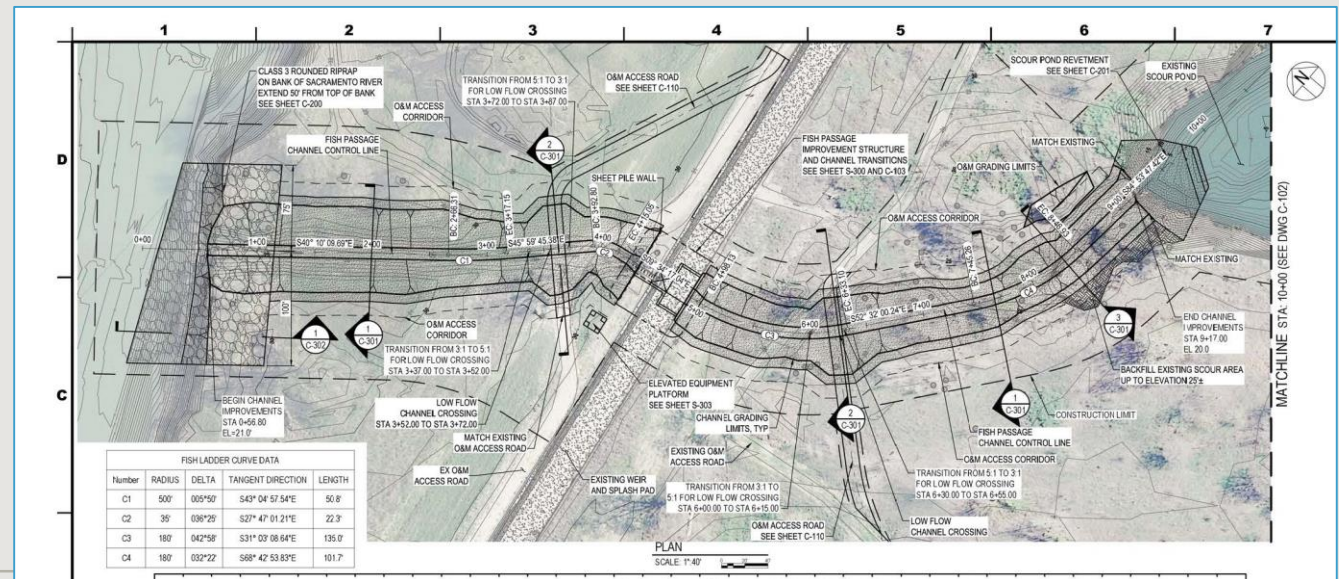
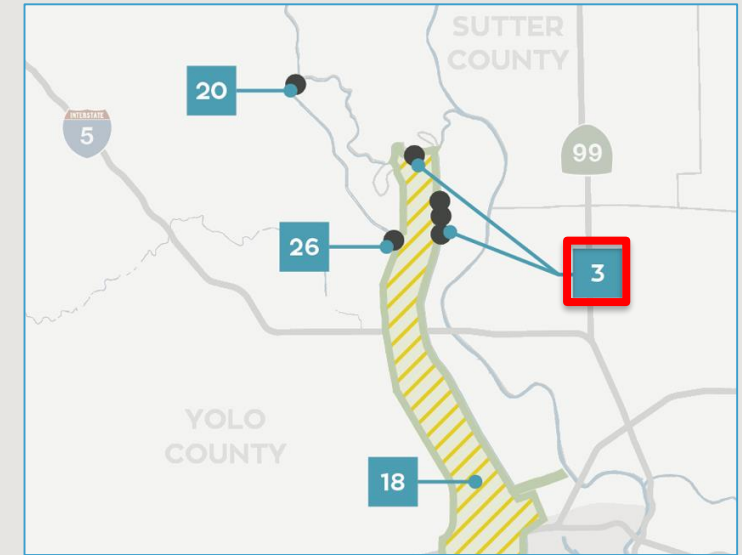
WALLACE WEIR FISH RESCUE FACILITY





FREMONT WEIR ADULT FISH PASSAGE

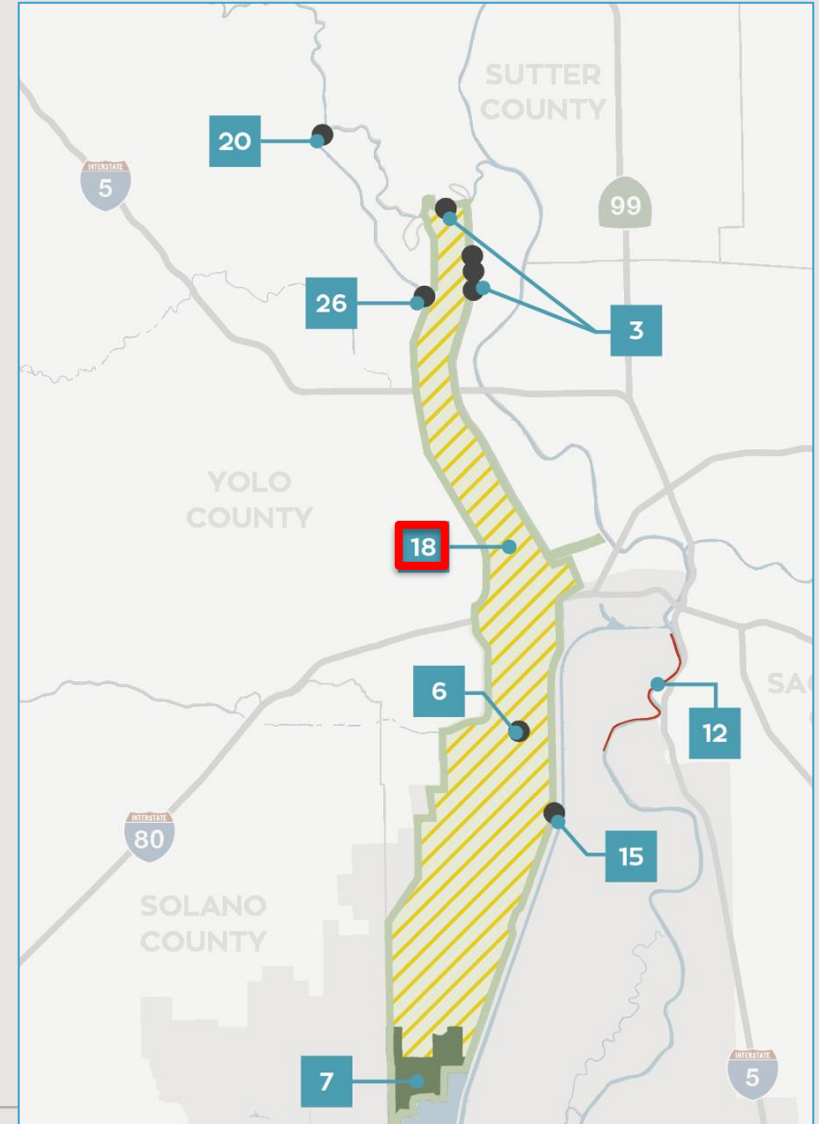
- Yolo Bypass Fish Passage
- Improve existing Fremont Weir fish ladder & several agricultural road crossings
- Led by DWR and USBOR
- Status: CEQA/NEPA and permitting
- Construction: Late summer 2017





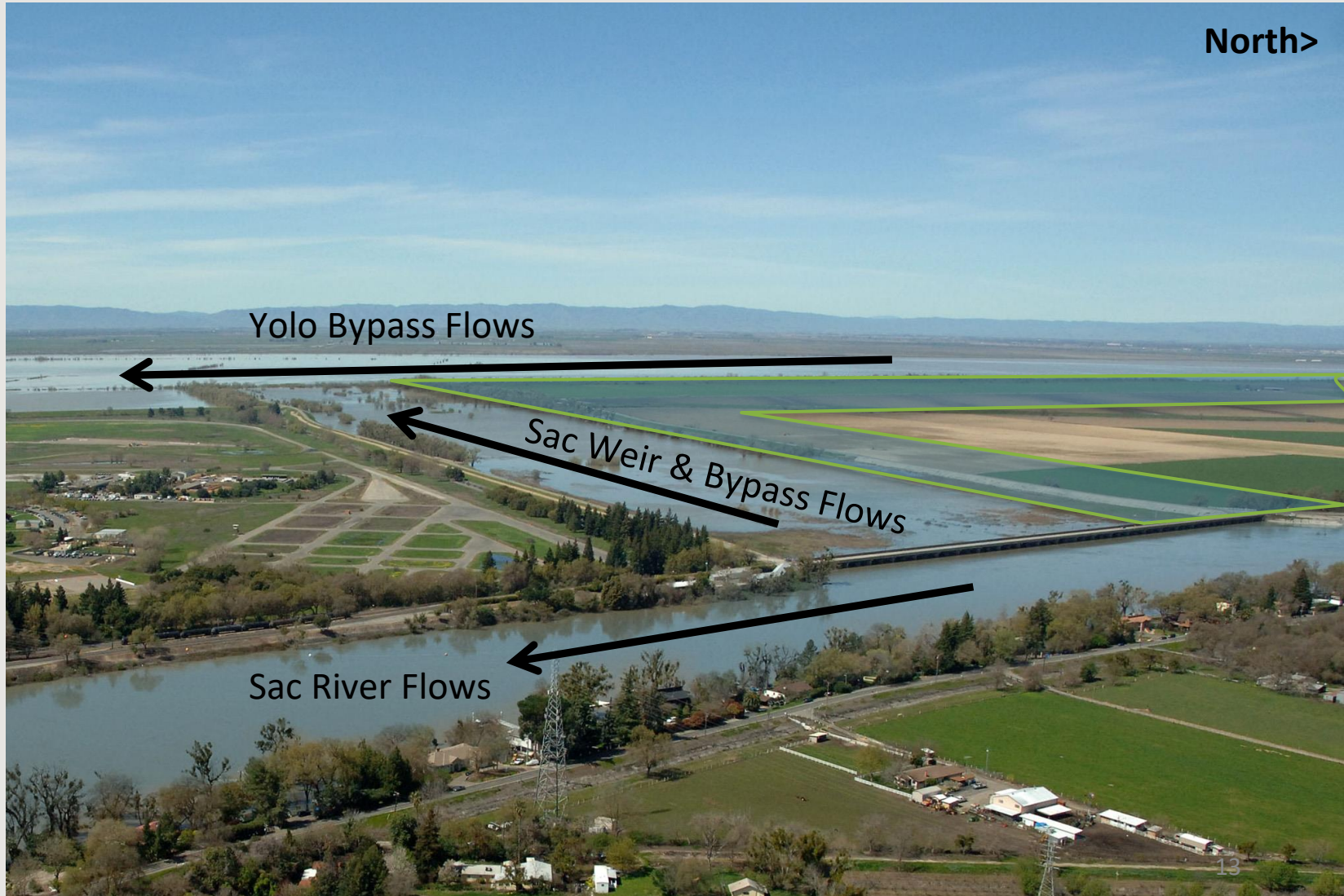
YOLO BYPASS FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION

- Yolo Bypass Floodplain Restoration
- Led by DWR and USBOR
- Status: Developing Admin. Draft EIR/EIS
- Public Draft EIR/EIS: Fall 2017
- Ongoing stakeholder engagement
- Challenges:
 - Design complexity
 - Project scale
 - Stakeholder buy-in & awareness





LOWER ELKHORN BASIN LEVEE SETBACK PROJECT



GRAPHIC FOR CONCEPTUAL PURPOSES ONLY – NOT TO SCALE



MORE INFORMATION

<http://resources.ca.gov/ecorestore/>

 @CAEcoRestore

 California EcoRestore

DPIIC REQUEST (NOVEMBER 2016):

A commitment to:

- Review matrix of priority EcoRestore projects (December 2016)
- Work internally to understand what resources and/or policy changes are needed to support EcoRestore implementation over next 3 years (December – April)
- At next DPIIC meeting (April 2017) report back on agency internal review; based on the report results, identify where DPIIC can be helpful in further removing barriers and implementing best practices

DPIIC REVIEW (APRIL 2017)

RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

EcoRestore Tracking Matrix Review Survey:

- What are the barriers to project implementation for your agency?
- What are the actions your agency can take to accelerate project implementation?
- What actions can other agencies take to accelerate project implementation?
- What has worked well in the past?
- Is it feasible to meet the proposed timelines?

DPIIC REVIEW (APRIL 2017)

RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

Summary of Recommendations and Results:

- Meeting the EcoRestore permitting schedule is feasible.
- Inadequate staff time, incomplete or changing submittals, and other complications due to overlapping agency jurisdictions are challenges for projects.
- Agencies are currently working on ways to reduce the barriers to project implementation.
- There are additional actions that can be taken to accelerate project implementation.

DPIIC REVIEW (APRIL 2017)

RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

Next Steps:

- Continued progress on implementation of the EcoRestore projects will require a sustained level of collaborative effort by the lead agencies/project proponents and permitting agencies.
- Many of the agency responses addressed long-term needs of EcoRestore projects and future restoration projects.

Committee Discussion Questions:

- Where can DPIIC can be helpful in further removing barriers and implementing best practices?
- What are other opportunities to make progress on habitat restoration in the Delta?